

WAVES OF CHANGE

PART ONE

SONIC™

Archie
COMICS

SEGA®

THE HEDGEHOG

ISSUE 260



LOOK OUT,
SONIC!

Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures – A world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG

WHO'S WHO

PREVIOUSLY...

THE GAME PLAN

The Shattered World Crisis is upon us! The planet's crust has cracked apart, and now whole continents float in the sky. What's worse, a strange dark power is seeping out of the planet's core and over the divided globe.



Sonic and his heroic friends, the Freedom Fighters, race to fix things. Thankfully, they have a plan: by finding the Seven Chaos Emeralds and delivering them to the Seven Gaia Temples, they should be able to restore the world!

But Sonic and friends aren't the only ones searching for the Emeralds and Temples.

Wanting nothing more than to bend the planet to his will, Dr. Eggman has obtained the Gaia Manuscripts containing the information he needs to turn the tides of war in his favor.

The race is on for the fate of the world...



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
FASTEST THING ALIVE



AMY ROSE
HAMMER-HEFTING HEROINE



ROTOR THE WALRUS
WARRIOR MECHANIC



???



WHAT ARE THOSE?!

SONIC
SPEEDY
HERO

SALLY
ACORN
TEAM
LEADER

WAVES OF CHANGE

Part One:
FIRST RIPPLES

ABOARD THE SKY PATROL...

BATTERY
REC

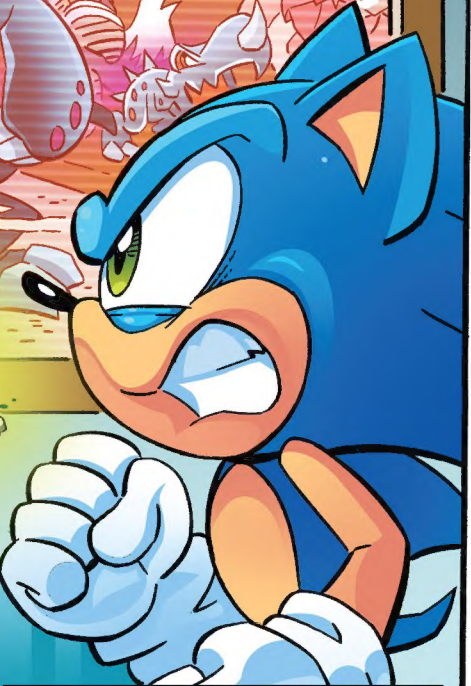


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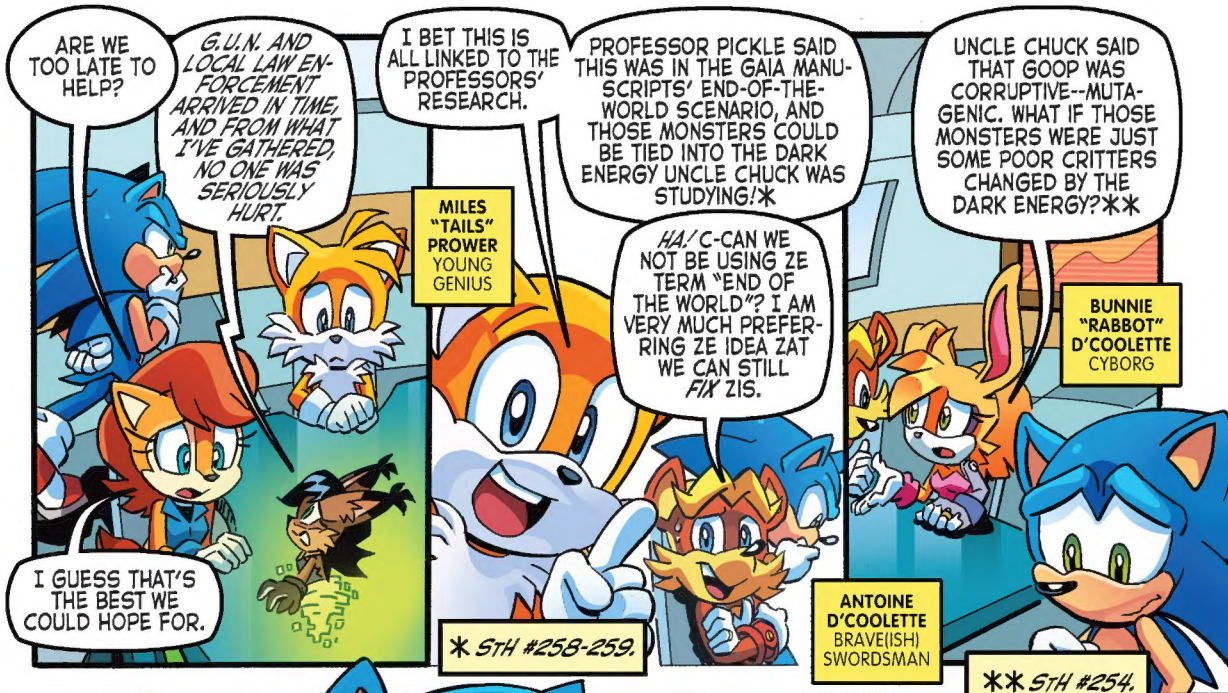


NICOLE
THE HOLO-
LYNX
LIVING
ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE

THIS IS AMATEUR
FOOTAGE FROM THE
OTHER NIGHT. SOME-
ONE IN WESTOPOLIS
RECORDED VIDEO OF
THESE... THINGS...
ATTACKING AFTER
DARK.



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ARE WE TOO LATE TO HELP?

G.U.N. AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ARRIVED IN TIME, AND FROM WHAT I'VE GATHERED, NO ONE WAS SERIOUSLY HURT.

I BET THIS IS ALL LINKED TO THE PROFESSORS' RESEARCH.

PROFESSOR PICKLE SAID THIS WAS IN THE GAIA MANUSCRIPTS' END-OF-THE-WORLD SCENARIO, AND THOSE MONSTERS COULD BE TIED INTO THE DARK ENERGY UNCLE CHUCK WAS STUDYING!*

UNCLE CHUCK SAID THAT GOOP WAS CORRUPTIVE--MUTAGENIC. WHAT IF THOSE MONSTERS WERE JUST SOME POOR CRITTERS CHANGED BY THE DARK ENERGY?***

MILES "TAILS" PROWER
YOUNG GENIUS

HA! C-CAN WE NOT BE USING ZE TERM "END OF THE WORLD"? I AM VERY MUCH PREFERRING ZE IDEA ZAT WE CAN STILL FIX ZIS.

BUNNIE "RABBIT" D'COOLETTE
CYBORG

I GUESS THAT'S THE BEST WE COULD HOPE FOR.

* STH #258-259.

ANTOINE D'COOLETTE
BRAVE(I)SHI SWORDSMAN

** STH #254.



GUYS-- YOU'RE OVER-THINKING IT.

THANKS TO THE PROFS, WE KNOW WHAT TO DO: FIND THE CHAOS EMERALDS, PLUG 'EM INTO THE GAIA TEMPLES, SAVE THE WORLD. SIMPLE.



RIGHT--LIKE FINDING ALL THE EMERALDS ALONE ISN'T HARD.

EH, I DO IT ALL THE TIME. BUT THEN, NOBODY IS AS SKILLED AS ME, ARE THEY?



BUT SONIC IS RIGHT ABOUT WHAT WE NEED TO DO, AND WE SHOULD DO IT QUICKLY. WE'LL START BY BREAKING INTO SEARCH AND RECOVERY TEAMS.

WATCH IT--I DON'T THINK THE SKY PATROL CAN SUPPORT THE WEIGHT OF YOUR EGO.

“SONIC--I WANT YOU TO TAKE AMY AND ROTOR AND DO RECON ON A POSSIBLE GAIA TEMPLE.”

“IN THE MEANTIME, I’M HAVING NICOLE CROSS-REFERENCE SOME OF THE DATA I TOOK FROM THE DEATH EGG.”

“BE CAREFUL OUT THERE, THIS CRISIS AFFECTS EVERYONE, AND NOT ALL OF THEM ARE HANDLING IT WELL--THOSE WE KNOW ABOUT.”

“WE’VE HARDLY MET EVERY RACE AND CULTURE OUT THERE...”

LATER...

WHY DOES EVERYONE ELSE GET TO GO ON THE EMERALD-GRABBING MISSION WHILE I’M STUCK BEACH-COMBING?

IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG, WE NEED YOU TO HANDLE EVERYTHING!

DON’T PATRONIZE ME ...BUT YOU’RE RIGHT.

THAT’S ‘CAUSE YOU’RE LOOKING AT THE MAP, ROTE. THE UNMARKED TEMPLE ISN’T GOING TO BE THERE.

WHAT I MEAN IS, PROFESSOR PICKLE WASN’T EVEN SURE THERE WAS A TEMPLE OUT HERE!

ROTOR THE WALRUS BUILDER & BRUISER

WE MIGHT AS WELL JUST HEAD BACK--I’M NOT SEEING ANYTHING REMOTELY LIKE A TEMPLE!

AND BETWEEN THE MAP OF THE REGION AND WHAT I CAN PLAINLY SEE, THERE IS NO TEMPLE HERE!

AMY ROSE PIKO-HAMMER WIELDER

HMM?

WHICH IS WHY WE’RE SEARCHING THE AREA, GENIUS!

I KNOW THAT! STOP BEING DIFFICULT!

HAHAHA!

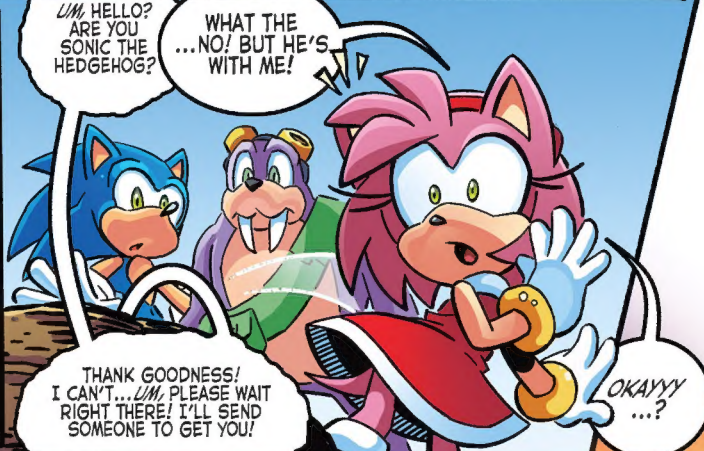
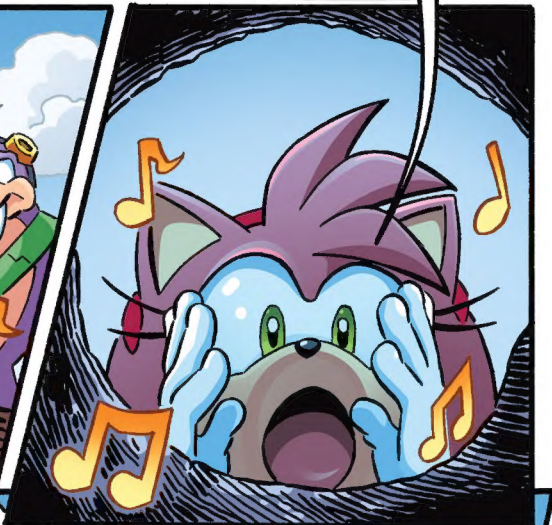
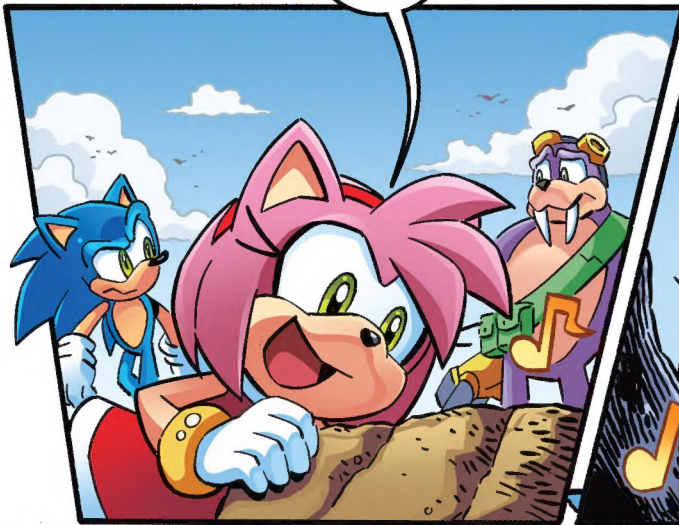
HEY, GUYS? I THINK THERE’S SOMETHING OVER HERE!

ALL I SEE ARE ROCKS. CAN’T YOU HEAR IT? CAN’T YOU FEEL IT?

...NO? WHAT?

THE MUSIC!

HELLO? IS ANYONE THERE? THAT'S A LOVELY TUNE! MAYBE YOU CAN HELP US?



OH, GOSH... IS THAT THEM?

UM, HELLO? ARE YOU SONIC THE HEDGEHOG?

WHAT THE... NO! BUT HE'S WITH ME!

THANK GOODNESS! I CAN'T... UM, PLEASE WAIT RIGHT THERE! I'LL SEND SOMEONE TO GET YOU!

OKAYYY...?

SOON...

WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOREVER!

MAYBE FIFTEEN MINUTES! KEEP YOUR SHOES ON!

SO... I GUESS YOU'RE THE SURFACE-WALKERS I'M SUPPOSED TO FETCH?

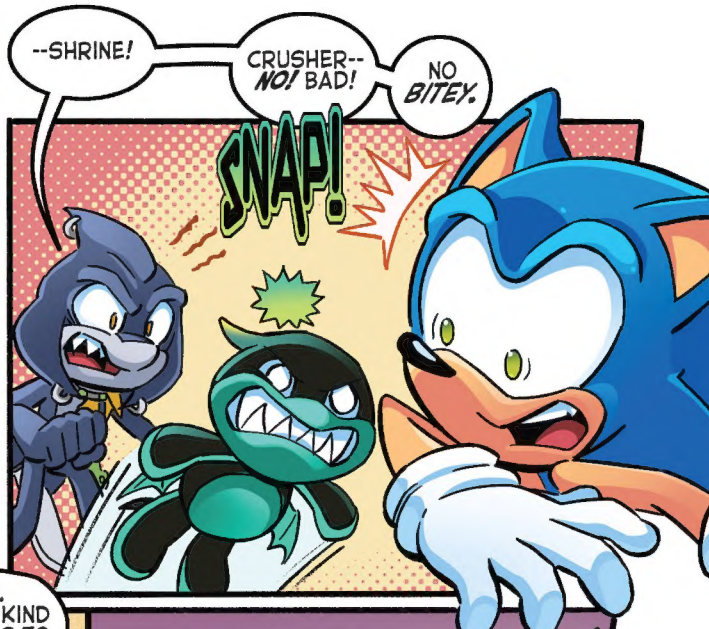
BAH!

RAZOR THE SHARK OCEAN WARRIOR

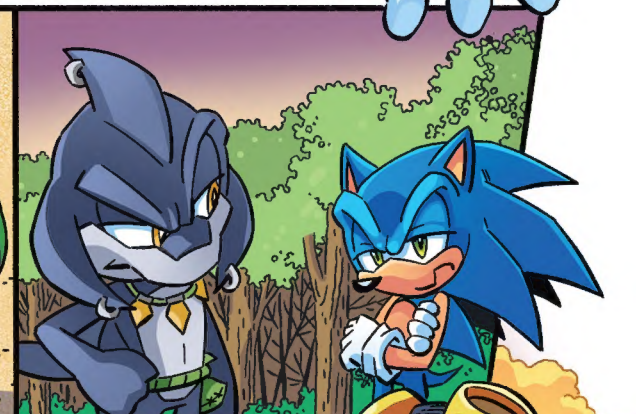
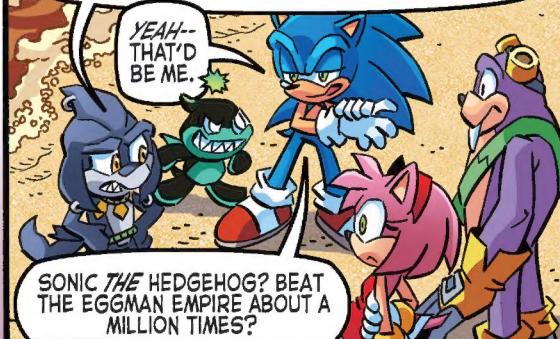
CRUSHER THE CHAO "ADORABLE" CHAO COMPANION

IT'S NOT A TOTAL LOSS. I BEAT MY TOP SCORE IN "ANGRY CHAO!"

=>AHM!<=

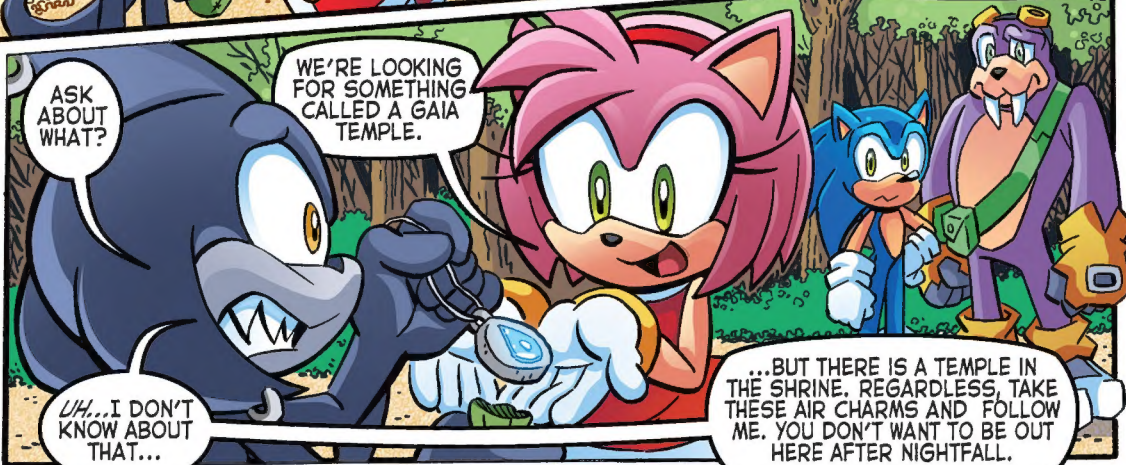
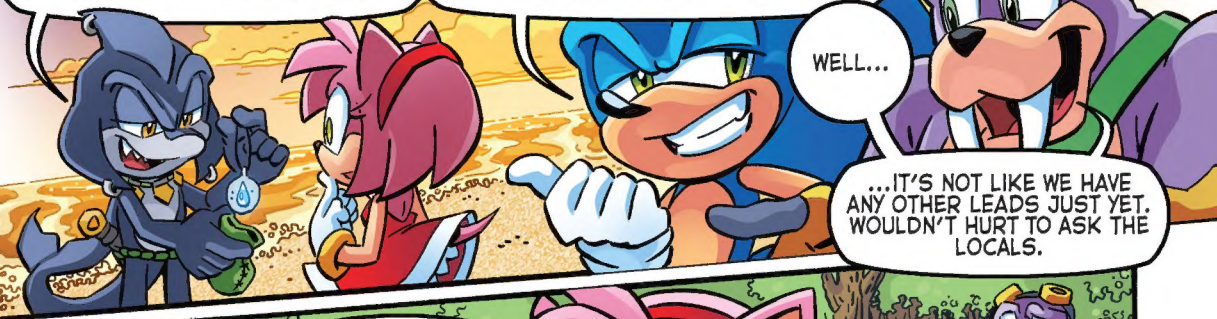


ANYWAY--I WAS SENT TO PICK YOU UP. I DON'T SUPPOSE ANY OF YOU ARE SOME KIND OF "GREAT HERO"? THE PRIESTESS SEEMS TO THINK AT LEAST ONE OF YOU IS IMPORTANT.



EH--ALL RIGHT. CORAL'S EXPECTING YOU, AND SHE'S THE PRIESTESS, SO THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.

I GUESS IF SOME PRIESTESS IS BRAGGING ABOUT US, WE'VE GOT TO LIVE UP TO HER EXPECTATIONS, RIGHT?



KEEP UP AND DON'T GO SIGHT-SEEING.

WE HAVEN'T HAD ANY VISITORS IN AGES, AND I'M NOT EVEN SURE THOSE AIR CHARMS STILL WORK--
HAHA!

WEIRD! I CAN BREATHE NORMALLY, BUT I'M NOT IN A BUBBLE OR ANYTHING.

Y'KNOW WHAT?

I DON'T THINK MY CLOTHES ARE GETTING WET. WHAT NEAT LITTLE CHARMS!

HOW ARE YOU DOING BACK THERE?

YOU KNOW ME-- I'M FINE. I CAN HANDLE ANYTHING.

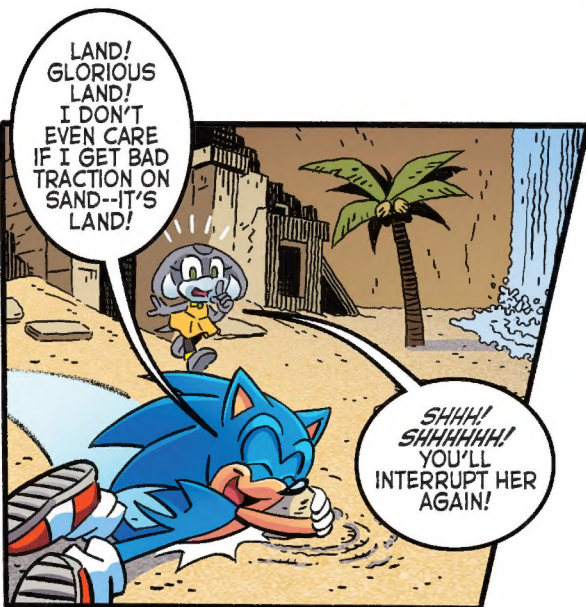
HATE WATER! HATE WATER! CAN'T SWIM! HATE ALL THOSE WATER-LOGGED ZONES! HATED FIGHTING CHAOS--HE WAS MADE OF WATER! * HATE WATER! HATE WATER!

* SONIC ADVENTURE --THE GAME.

IS THAT A CITY BACK THERE?

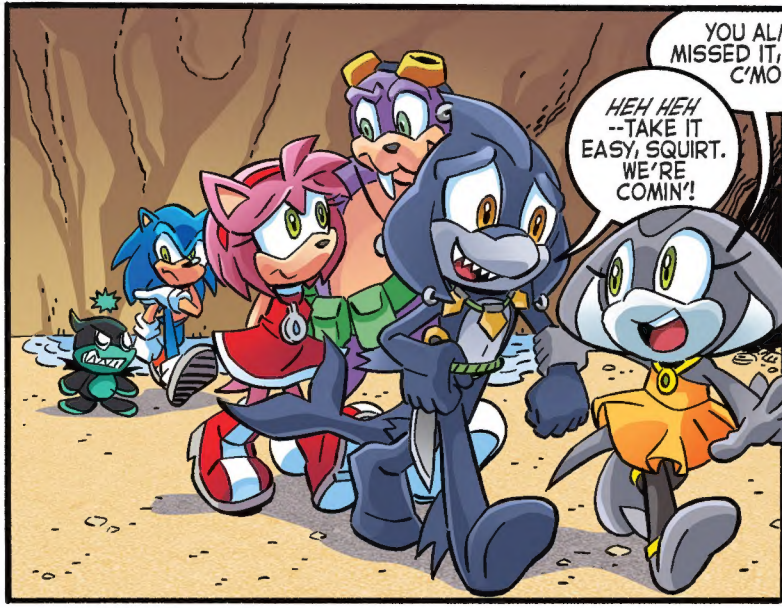
YEAH, THAT'S MEROPIS. BUT THE TEMPLE'S OUTSIDE THE CITY, RIGHT IN HERE, EVERYONE, THEN UP UNTIL YOU HIT THE SURFACE.

YES!
SURFACE!
YES!



LAND!
GLORIOUS
LAND!
I DON'T
EVEN CARE
IF I GET BAD
TRACTION ON
SAND--IT'S
LAND!

SHHH!
SHHHHHH!
YOU'LL
INTERRUPT HER
AGAIN!



YOU ALMOST
MISSED IT, RAZOR!
C'MON!

HEH HEH
--TAKE IT
EASY, SQUIRT.
WE'RE
COMIN'!



SG4W00P

YAY!
AQUARIUS
WENT
INTO HER
COCOON!

YEAH!
THAT
CERTAINLY
WAS...A
THNG...

OH! WELCOME! THANK YOU FOR BRINGING
THEM HERE, RAZOR. MY NAME IS CORAL, AND
I'M PRIESTESS OF THIS SHRINE. THIS IS
PEARLY, MY LITTLE APPRENTICE.

H'LO.

PEARLY
THE MANTA
RAY
WHAT CORAL
JUST SAID

CORAL
THE BETTA
PRIESTESS

YOU CAME JUST IN TIME TO
WITNESS THE REINCARNATION OF OUR
SACRED CHAO...AQUARIUS.

SHE'S BEEN RE-
BORN IN THIS SHRINE
FOR GENERATIONS,
SO SOON SHE'LL BE
REBORN FRESH AND
NEW...AT LEAST, I
HOPE SO.

YOU SEE,
THE CHAO
ARE MYSTICAL
CHILDREN
THAT GROW
THROUGH
LOVING
CONTACT.

WHEN THEY REACH
THE END OF THEIR
CYCLES, THEY CLOSE
THEMSELVES IN A
COCOON AND...

ACTUALLY--SORRY!--WE
KNOW ABOUT THE CHAO.
WE HAVE FRIENDS THAT
RAISE THEM.

REALLY? I DIDN'T
REALIZE THE LAND-
CULTURES HAD CHAO!

AND WE DIDN'T EVEN KNOW
THERE WERE SETTLEMENTS
UNDER THE OCEAN, SO I
GUESS WE'RE EVEN!

OH, RIGHT! OUR
HEROES ARE HERE!
SONIC THE HEDGE-
HOG, I PRESUME?

FINALLY, SOME
RECOGNITION!
AND WITH ME ARE
ROTOR AND AMY--

SENT BY THE
WHO-NOW?

SENT BY THE
SPIRITS TO HELP
US IN OUR TIME
OF NEED!

...THE SPIRITS?
THE ONES WHO
TOLD ME YOUR
NAME?

SORRY, WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT SPIRITS.

BUT CAN YOU CONFIRM IF THIS PLACE IS--?

OOF!

SPIRITS OR NOT, WE'LL BE HAPPY TO HELP YOU. WE ARE THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, AFTER ALL.

YEAH, THAT, TOO...

I-I-I DON'T UNDERSTAND ...THE SPIRIT SAID...AND WITH EVERYTHING ELSE GOING WRONG, I CAN'T...

HEY--IT'S LATE. LET'S ALL JUST CAMP OUT FOR THE NIGHT AND FIGURE THINGS OUT IN THE MORNING.

B-B-BUT ...A-ALL RIGHT...

PLEASE EXCUSE ME...

TAKE THOSE AIR CHARMS TO BE RE-CHARGED. *OKAY, KIDDO?*

YOU THREE ARE WELCOME TO REST HERE FOR THE NIGHT. ACTUALLY, LIKE I SAID...

... YOU DO NOT WANT TO BE CAUGHT OUTSIDE AT NIGHT.

SHORTLY...

...THERE'S EVEN A HUGE CITY DOWN HERE, THOUGH WE HAVEN'T ACTUALLY SEEN IT YET. IT'S BEEN ONE SURPRISE AFTER ANOTHER TODAY!

AT LEAST--"CORAL," WAS IT?--AND THE OTHERS SOUNDED NICE. I ENVY YOU GETTING TO MEET A WHOLE NEW CULTURE FIRST!

THE TALK OF MONSTERS AT NIGHT, EVEN THERE, HAS ME WORRIED, THOUGH. ANY PROGRESS ON FINDING THE GAIA TEMPLE?

MAYBE? NOBODY SEEMS TO KNOW WHAT A GAIA TEMPLE IS, SO ROTOR'S GOING TO RUN TESTS ON THE STRUCTURE HERE IN THE MORNING. OH! ANOTHER WEIRD THING--CORAL SAID SOME SPIRITS TOLD HER WE WERE COMING.

I... I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF IT.

HMM...WELL, PLAY IT BY EAR. I KNOW YOU GUYS CAN HANDLE IT.

BY THE WAY... HOW'S SONIC?

HE FREAKED A LITTLE ABOUT GOING UNDERWATER, BUT OTHERWISE HE SEEMS LIKE HIMSELF. I DUNNO, SALLY--HE'S REALLY HARD TO READ SOMETIMES.

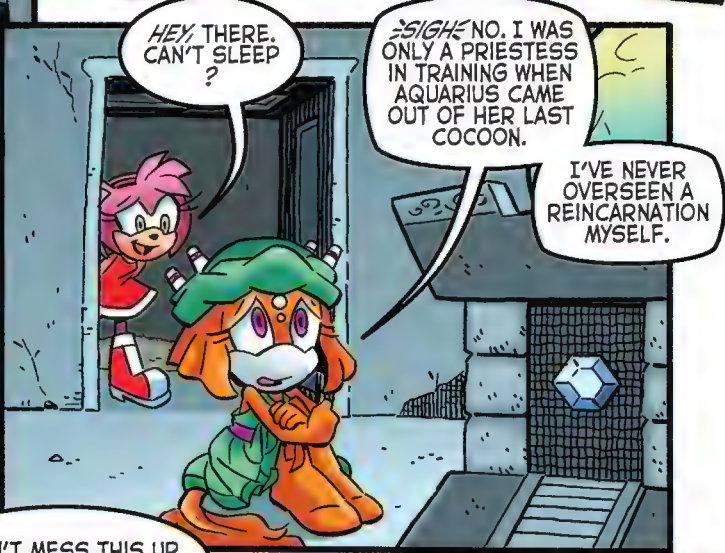
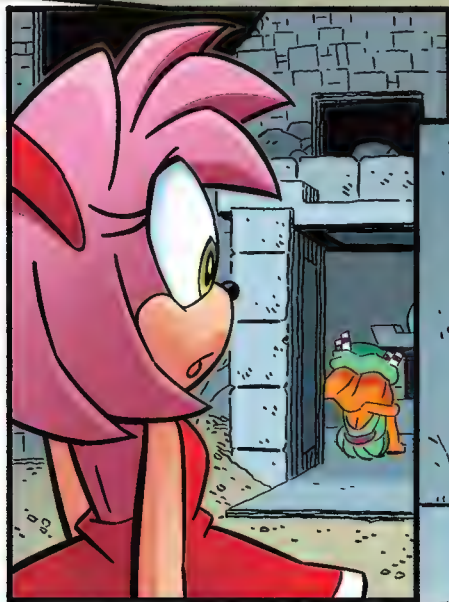
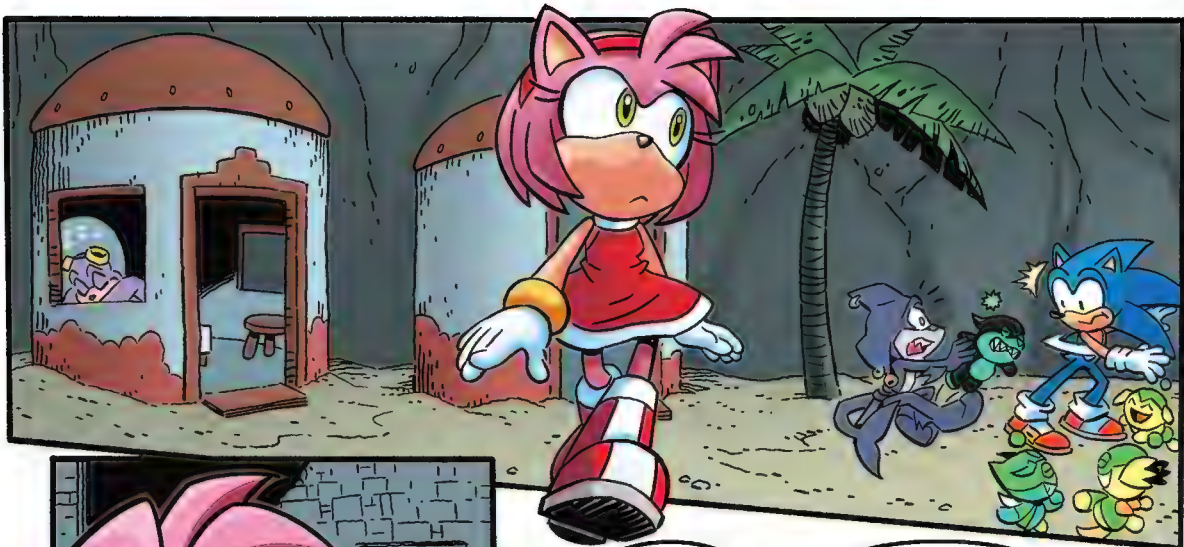
TELL ME ABOUT IT. STILL-- THAT EXPOSURE TO THE DARK ENERGY HAS ME CONCERNED, EVEN IF HE DOESN'T SEEM TO CARE ABOUT IT. KEEP AN EYE ON HIM.

WE'RE GOING TO STOP THE SKY PATROL SOON AND PROCEED THE REST OF THE WAY STEALTHILY. I DON'T WANT EGGMAN TO KNOW WE'RE CLOSING IN ON AN EMERALD. REST UP--AND TAKE CARE OF YOURSELVES OUT THERE.

HAHA! NOT A PROBLEM!

blip

YOU, TOO. G'NITE, SALLY, AND GOOD LUCK ON YOUR MISSION.



HEY, THERE. CAN'T SLEEP?

SIGH NO. I WAS ONLY A PRIESTESS IN TRAINING WHEN AQUARIUS CAME OUT OF HER LAST COCOON.

I'VE NEVER OVERSEEN A REINCARNATION MYSELF.



I CAN'T MESS THIS UP. I...I JUST *CAN'T*.

YOU LOOKED PRETTY PROFESSIONAL TO ME, AND I DON'T KNOW A THING ABOUT CHAO-RAISING. MAKES ME WISH WE'D BROUGHT CREAM ALONG...

NO, NOT LIKE THAT. CREAM'S A FRIEND OF MINE--SHE LOVES CHAO; YOU TWO WOULD GET ALONG GREAT. ACTUALLY, SPEAKING OF OUR FRIENDS, WE COULD HAVE USED TAILS TO FLY THROUGH THE HOLES IN THE CEILING HERE INSTEAD OF SWIMMING.

WHAT GOOD WOULD CREAM DO US?

YOU...FLY... WITH YOUR TAILS?

NEVER MIND. MAYBE I CAN INTRODUCE YOU ALL LATER.



THAT WAS A LOVELY SONG YOU PLAYED DURING THE CEREMONY. WAS THAT A MAGIC FLUTE OR SOMETHING?

OH! ...THANK YOU!

THE *MYSTIC MELODY* IS A TECHNIQUE HANDED DOWN FROM ONE PRIESTESS TO THE NEXT. IT SEEMS LIKE THE ONLY THING I'M STILL DOING RIGHT LATELY...



IS IT JUST FOR THE CHAO, OR DO YOU USE IT IN ALL OF YOUR DUTIES?

OH, IT'S INTEGRAL TO IT ALL.

IT HELPS ACTIVATE MAGIC RINGS TO POWER THE CITY, SUSTAINS THE WATERY SHIELD THAT PROTECTS EVERYONE FROM HARM, AND IT'S SAID TO LET YOU COMMUNE WITH THE ANCIENT SPIRITS...



...EXCEPT IT SEEMS THAT'S NOT TRUE, AND I'M JUST CRAZY.

IT DOESN'T SOUND CRAZY TO ME. BELIEVE ME--I'VE SEEN SOME *WEIRD* STUFF. THINGS YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE.

LIKE WHAT?



OH, LIKE...

...WANNABE MACHINE GODS? GIANT MECHA-SALAMANDERS GLUED TO SPACE STATIONS? PRINCESSES FROM OTHER DIMENSIONS WHO CONTROL FIRE? *

...YOU'RE MAKING THIS UP TO MAKE ME FEEL BETTER.

HAHA! I TOLD YOU!

* FROM YOUR FAVORITE SONIC GAMES!



TRUE OR NOT, I DOUBT I COULD FACE ANYTHING HALF SO ADVENTUROUS.

POOR GIRL... SHE REMINDS ME A LOT OF HOW I USED TO BE. ALWAYS RELYING ON SONIC TO SAVE ME... I'M SURE SHE'S A LOT STRONGER THAN SHE THINKS.



THE NEXT MORNING...

WELL--IT'S DEFINITELY BIGGER ON THE INSIDE, BUT I DON'T SEE ANYTHING THAT REALLY SCREAMS "STICK CHAOS EMERALD HERE." WHAT'D YOU FIND?

MM...LOOKS LIKE THE STONE IS OLD ENOUGH TO BE A GAIA TEMPLE, BUT THAT DOESN'T NECESSARILY PROVE THAT IT *IS*.

CORAL SAID THAT THIS TEMPLE WASN'T BUILT BY THEIR PEOPLE ...I'M GUESSING IT WAS ORIGINALLY ON THE SURFACE, BUT FELL DOWN HERE A LONG TIME AGO.

SO...WE'VE REACHED A DEFINITIVE "MAYBE."

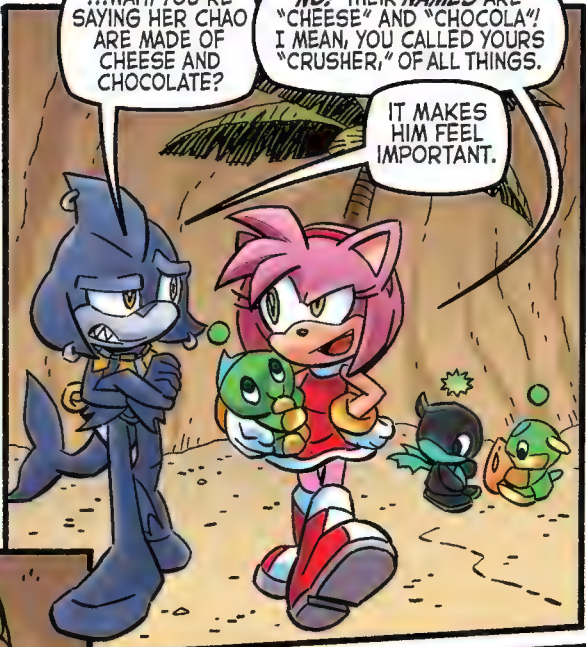
...WAIT, YOU'RE SAYING HER CHAO ARE MADE OF CHEESE AND CHOCOLATE?

NO! THEIR NAMES ARE "CHEESE" AND "CHOCOLA"! I MEAN, YOU CALLED YOURS "CRUSHER," OF ALL THINGS.

IT MAKES HIM FEEL IMPORTANT.



PRETTY MUCH.



DON'T BE SHY, PEARLY. YOU OUGHT TO KNOW THESE CHAO BETTER THAN ME.

NUH-UH, CHAO ARE CREEPY!

AHHHHH!!



BUT...THEY'RE LIKE LITTLE WATER-BABIES. HOW ARE THEY CREEPY?

SERIOUSLY, YOUR HEAD'S COVERED WITH SPINES. SHE OUGHT TO BE SCARED OF YOU!





...WE'VE GOT COMPANY!

WHO ARE YOU? AND HOW DARE YOU TRESPASS ON SACRED GROUND ?!

SONIC, ROTOR, AND AMY...
STRANGERS IN A STRANGE LAND!

MONSTERS SWARMING EVERY NIGHT!

AND NEXT TIME, THE THREATS GROW DEEPER!
UNTIL THEN, DON'T MISS OUT ON SONIC SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE, SONIC SUPER DIGEST, AND THE GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!

The LIGHT in The DARK

PART ONE



RISE AND SHINE,
FREEDOM FIGHTERS!
WE'VE GOT A
CHAOS EMERALD
TO FIND.

Y'ALL TRACKED ONE DOWN
ALREADY? I HOPE YOU GOT
SOME SLEEP LAST NIGHT,
SALLY-GIRL.

STILL, NICELY
DONE. IT SEEMS
THERE IS OFTEN
LITTLE RHYMING OF
REASON WHERE ZE
EMERALDS END UP.

I USED TO
HAVE ONE
OF THOSE!

EXACTEMENT
MY POINT...



Script: ALEAH BAKER
Pencils: EVAN STANLEY
Inks: TERRY AUSTIN
Colors: MATT HERMS
Letters: JOHN WORKMAN



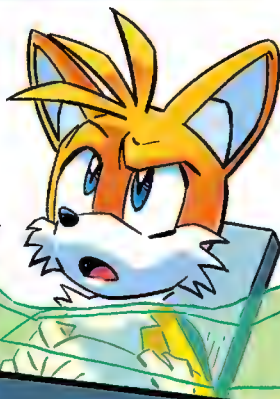
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE HERE, GUYS, SO HERE'S WHAT WE'VE GOT:

ACCORDING TO THE FILES I TOOK FROM THE DEATH EGG, DR. EGGMAN HAD SEVERAL OPERATIONS LOOKING INTO VARIOUS POWERFUL RESOURCES TO FUEL HIS EMPIRE.

A LOT OF THEM WERE DUDS. THIS ONE, HOWEVER...

...WAS LOOKING VERY PROMISING. BUT FOR SOME REASON, THE EXCAVATION WAS STALLED.

BUT...HOW DO WE KNOW THEY DIDN'T START UP AGAIN? THE FILES MIGHT BE OUT OF DATE BY NOW.



THE HIATUS WAS REPORTED JUST BEFORE THE WORLD SHATTERED. WITH THE EGG ARMY IN DISARRAY, IT SIMPLY WASN'T A PRIORITY.

BUT I'VE BEEN SCANNING TRANSMISSIONS. IT SOUNDS LIKE THEY'RE PLANNING ON RESUMING QUITE SOON.

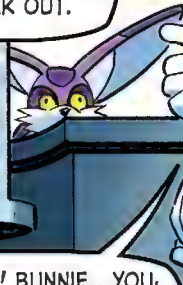


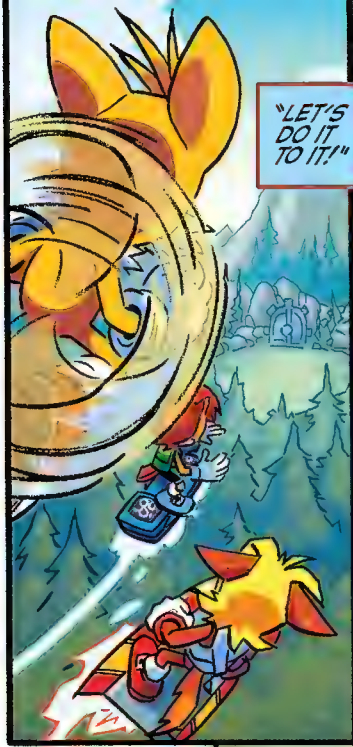
THE POINT IS, WE HAVE A GREAT WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY HERE.

WE SNEAK IN, GRAB THE EMERALD, AND WE SNEAK OUT.

AND THEN OL' EGGMAN'LL WASTE HIS TIME AN' RESOURCES DIGGIN' AROUND LOOKIN' FOR SOMETHING THAT AIN'T THERE!

EXACTLY! BUNNIE...YOU, BIG, AND CREAM KEEP AN EYE ON THINGS HERE. EVERYONE ELSE...





"LET'S DO IT TO IT!"



I AM NOT SEEING MUCH IN ZE WAY OF SECURITY...



WELL, THIS *IS* PRETTY MUCH IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE. INSIDE IS PROBABLY A DIFFERENT STORY, THOUGH.

AND THAT'S WHY WE'RE LUCKY TO HAVE NICOLE HERE.

THAT YOU ARE.



HMMM.

"HMMM"?

I'M ABLE TO CIRCUMVENT THIS SYSTEM'S SECURITY FEATURES. ALL ROBOTS SHOULD BE SHUT DOWN AND OUTGOING VIDEO FEEDS AND TRANSMISSIONS ARE NOW MASKED.

BUT THE SYSTEM'S DEFENSES ARE MORE CAPABLE THAN ANTICIPATED. AT THEIR CURRENT RATE, THEY WILL OVERCOME MY ALTERATIONS IN SEVENTY-TWO MINUTES, DISCOUNTING FLUCTUATIONS.



THAT ONLY LEAVES US AN HOUR...

WE *NEED* THAT EMERALD. I THINK IT'S WORTH A SHOT.

AGREED. I'LL MONITOR OUR TIME. THE LIGHTS HAVE BEEN TURNED ON. DISENGAGING THE DOOR'S LOCKS NOW.

KCHUNK!





AH...ZE SUPPORTS LOOK STURDY, NON? WITH ALL THE EARTH-SHAKES...

EARTH-QUAKES, 'TWAN.

ZE POINT IS, IF ZE TUNNEL WERE LIKELY TO BE COLLAPSING, IT WOULD HAVE ALREADY HAPPENED, YES?

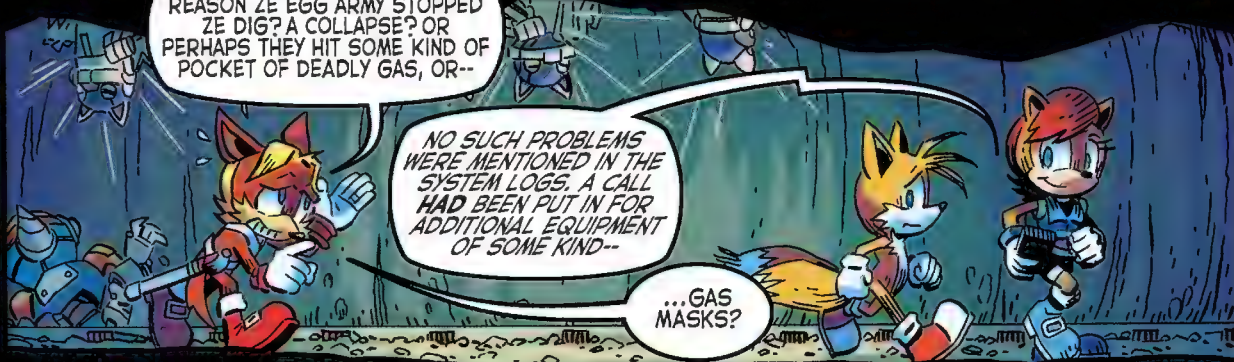
I...GUESS? GIVEN ALL THE RECENT ACTIVITY, WE'RE PROBABLY LUCKY IT'S STILL STANDING AT ALL.



HMPH. WHAT IF THAT IS THE REASON ZE EGG ARMY STOPPED ZE DIG? A COLLAPSE? OR PERHAPS THEY HIT SOME KIND OF POCKET OF DEADLY GAS, OR--

NO SUCH PROBLEMS WERE MENTIONED IN THE SYSTEM LOGS. A CALL HAD BEEN PUT IN FOR ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT OF SOME KIND--

...GAS MASKS?



ALL THIS TALK IS REMINDING ME OF THE STUFF SEEPING OUT OF THE GROUND NEAR KNOTHOLE.*

...SALLY? DO YOU THINK SONIC IS REALLY--



*STH #254.

OH.



I ASSUME THIS IS WHERE THE DIGGING STOPPED.

YES, THE LOGS HERE INDICATE AN ABRUPT CHANGE IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE TERRAIN, BUT ANTOINE WILL BE PLEASED TO KNOW THAT THERE ARE NO SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF ANYTHING DANGEROUS IN THE AIR. FURTHERMORE, I'M DETECTING FAINT READINGS OF CHAOS ENERGY.

WELL, I SUPPOSE WE HAVE COME THIS FAR...

NICOLE, OPEN THE DOOR.

KCHUNK!

ALL RIGHT, GUYS, BE READY FOR...

SO THE EMERALD'S CLOSE? THAT'S GREAT!

MON DIEU...

...ANYTHING...

THEY CAME LOOKING FOR A *CHAOS EMERALD*, BUT WHAT *OTHER* SURPRISES DOES THE *MYSTERIOUS CAVERN* HOLD?

WHAT SHOCKING *SECRETS* AWAIT THE **FREEDOM FIGHTERS**

IN THE *DARK*? AND WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THEIR *PLANS* GO AWRY...?

FIND OUT NEXT TIME IN...

The LIGHT in The DARK
PART TWO



SONIC-GRAMS

FAN ART



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OFF-PANEL

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WRITE TO US @ SONIC GRAMS C/O ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
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Dear 'Sonic Grams,'
Let's cut the jibba jabba and get on with the usual!

Aww I like the jibba and the jabba! Go ahead...

First of all, I'm so excited about the new badnik E-106 Eta. He's soooo cool!!! I like him mostly because of his design, and he has those spike hand things instead of a gun like the rest of the E-100 series.

Eta is beta than eva! Glad you're digging his design! Eta's role in the new universe has only been glimpsed at, so stick with us to see more on the butt-kicking badnik!

Since the world has been altered and new characters are being added to the series like Prof. Pickle and Black Death, could you add Honey the Cat? I've seen a lot of

people requesting her and I'd like her added into the comics as well.

Hmmm...a taste of honey might just be what the doctor ordered...

I liked the cover Tyson Hesse did for issue 258 and was wondering, will he ever be drawing full stories for the comics?

Maaaaayyyyybreeeee :)

Final question. The new world has probably opened a lot of new doors for the story. I was hoping you could do a Sonic 2006 story.

Thanks!

Joey E. sent to
Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Thanks for the letter, Joey! We certainly have a lot of new ideas that we want to include in the comic as well as incorporate elements

from the games, like with our current story and the game Sonic Unleashed. Keep an eye out and you might catch a thing or two from Sonic 06 in the future!

Dear 'Sonic Grams,'
Man you guys, I am so PSYCHED for the Werehog. I saw that first tease after Sonic breathed in the gas and I was jumping in excitement. I'm not alone, boy the fans can not wait. Please keep up the good work,

Jackie J. sent to
Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Thanks for writing in, Jackie! The beast has yet to be unleashed! One thing's for sure, the situation is about to get a lot hairier!

See y'all next month for "Waves of Change," part two of four!

COLLECTOR COVER SPOTLIGHT

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #260



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PART TWO OF FOUR

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